

A top Army officer from Virginia and members of the 101st Airborne attended services.

"We are here to be with the family, to respect and honor this great soldier," Maj. Gen. Russell L. Honore of Norfolk, Va., said before services began. "He served proudly and with distinction for our nation." Honore said he represented the Secretary of the Army and the Chiefs of Staff.

Shelby County Mayor A C Wharton thanked Kennon's family on behalf of the citizens of the county.

"We share your loss," he said.

Several of Kennon's friends spoke about his loyalty, honesty and his love for family and the military.

Snow's eulogy was so passionate the minister had to sit down for part of its delivery.

Kennon was "a good man who could have at the age of 23 been on the streets doing nothing, but he chose to do something positive and constructive with his life. It is unfortunate that he was cut down at an early age," he said.

Snow offered comfort for Kennon's mother, Paulette Crawford-Webb, his father, Morgan Kennon, and other relatives and friends.

"In spite of all that has transpired, God is still good," Snow said. "You need to know and understand today that Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal."

He said Kennon knew the risks of a military career, "but he trusted God."

Kennon was a soldier in the U.S. Army and a soldier in the army of the Lord who did not fear death, Snow said.

"He was prepared externally and he was prepared internally. He wasn't afraid of what could happen to him because he knew that with Jesus, he would be all right."

CONGRATULATING TO THE SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an extraordinary team on an extraordinary season. On Saturday, November 23, 2003, the San Jose Earthquakes became the second team in Major League Soccer history to win the Major League Soccer Cup multiple times, thrilling soccer fans around the country and around the world.

The Earthquakes' 4-2 victory over the Chicago Fire showcased the team's explosive talent and demonstrated why soccer is one of the fastest growing sports in America today. This match featured more goals than a Major League Soccer championship has ever seen, including two from two-time U.S. National Team Player of the Year and MLS Cup MVP Landon Donovan.

The Earthquakes' rise to the MLS championship game provided soccer fans with endless high drama, including a five-goal comeback against the Los Angeles Galaxy to advance to the Western Conference final, and a 3-2 victory over the Kansas City Wizards, in which Landon Donovan sealed the championship birth with a golden goal in the 117th minute of play.

In the championship game itself, the San Jose Earthquakes showed a capacity crowd in Carson, California and a national audience four goals, one saved penalty kick, and 90 minutes of world-class soccer. Throughout that game, and throughout the season, the Earth-

quakes played aggressive, attacking, exciting soccer and delighted San Jose's growing legion of fans.

The sportsmanship and gamesmanship of the Earthquakes have helped bring success to Major League Soccer. Only eight years old, this league has already captured the hearts and imaginations of soccer fans around the country and provided the United States with some of the world's best players—many of whom were instrumental in bringing our country to the quarterfinals of last year's World Cup, held in Japan and Korea.

Today, the Earthquakes are the pride, not only of San Jose, but also of America's entire sports community.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 2003 Major League Soccer Champions, and I congratulate the San Jose Earthquakes on a fantastic season.

CONDEMNING THE "GRAND THEFT AUTO: VICE CITY" VIDEO GAME: ANTI-HAITIAN RACISM AND STEREOTYPES HAVE NO PLACE IN AMERICAN SOCIETY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues, and to condemn in the strongest possible terms, a Rockstar Inc. video game entitled "Grand Theft Auto: Vice City." This game has no place as an amusement in this country because it purports to make "fun" using racist and stereotyped images of Haitians and Cubans.

This despicable video game portrays Haitians as ugly criminals and lower forms of human life who must be obliterated once and for all. In order to win the game, the player—an ex-convict—is hired to recover stolen drug money on the streets of Miami. In his pursuit, he faces police officers and gangsters from Cuba and Haiti. Armed with a machete, knife, gun and baseball bat, the game urges players to "kill the Haitians" and "kill the Cubans."

What makes this matter even more offensive is that, by its immigration policies and pronouncements, the Bush Administration fosters a view of Haitian asylum seekers as potential terrorists rather than bona-fide refugees.

It is hard to see how such contemptible acts could be seen as "fun," for this video game is scandalous and hateful and deeply offensive to Haitian and Cuban Americans and every decent American concerned about racism and violence in this country.

I ask this Congress and all people of goodwill to join me in condemning this hateful video game and to do everything possible to increase public knowledge of it and thereby to limit its acceptance in both domestic and foreign markets.

Mr. Speaker, I represent the largest Haitian constituency in the United States, and this video game is demeaning, demoralizing and deeply hurtful to hundreds of thousands of hard-working, law-abiding Haitian Americans and their families in South Florida and in this country. It does not take much to imagine the destructive impact that the repulsive images of

this game would have on youngsters, whether they are Haitian-American, Cuban-American, or not.

This video game symbolizes the very lowest of our nation's values. It is deeply disturbing, not only that the manufacturer would seek to profit by the sales of this game, but that people would buy it. I urge all my colleagues, and every American, to take a firm stand against such commercial trash and to rededicate ourselves to the principles of freedom and liberty that such hatred cannot destroy.

REMOVAL OF U.S. TARIFF ON ORANGE JUICE IMPORTS WOULD NOT ENHANCE FREE TRADE

HON. TOM FEENEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, three weeks ago the leaders of more than thirty nations around the Western Hemisphere gathered in Miami for the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Eighth Ministerial meeting for the purpose of expanding free trade within the Western Hemisphere.

I watched with great interest as these negotiations progressed, fully cognizant of the significant impact that they could have on my state of Florida.

Free trade and free markets are essentially about making trade easier by allowing the market to balance needs, supply and demand. We are engaged in a battle to tear down trade barriers around the world in an effort to promote jobs, competition and greater prosperity for all countries involved. Since Adam Smith explained the benefits of free trade in his great work "The Wealth of Nations", thoughtful policy makers have understood the need to reduce these barriers. The famous economist Joseph Schumpeter once proclaimed that capitalism relies on the free flow of information and goods.

The talks in Miami generated positive movement towards greater economic integration in this hemisphere. Trade Ministers agreed to a baseline of minimum standards for a full and comprehensive agreement that takes into account differing levels of development among nations. This framework is a step forward that gives nations needed flexibility.

As we continue these discussions, I would caution the negotiators to find an acceptable balance between the need to open up to new foreign markets and to protect an industry that is vital to America's supply of fresh fruit and Florida's economic infrastructure: the Florida citrus industry.

There are only two countries that produce 90 percent of the world's orange juice: the United States and Brazil. Brazil currently sells to the United States and has a large market share in the European Union. Without competition from the Florida citrus industry, Brazil would enjoy a monopoly over world orange juice production.

The citrus industry in Florida generates revenues of \$9.1 billion each year and employs nearly 90,000 people without subsidies from the Federal Government. A collapse of this industry would not only cost tens of thousands of jobs, it would also cost the State and local governments of Florida up to \$1 billion in lost tax revenues.